

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Dangerous Traps for the Children of the Metropolis.

What the Public May Expect in Case of Fire or Panic.

Over Two Hundred Thousand Lives Daily Endangered.

The School Houses, Their Appliances and Surroundings.

At least one hundred thousand lives are daily entrusted to those having charge of the schools of this city, and in the light of recent events it was deemed proper that a full investigation should be made and the public made in regard to the safety of their children who might happen to be in attendance. There are in this city 104 schools (grammar, primary and colored schools), besides the corporate schools. The last report shows that for the year ending with December, 1872, the whole number of pupils on the roll was 238,167, distributed as follows:—

	Actual Attendance.	Whole Number on the Roll.
Grammar schools (male)	32,500	32,500
Grammar schools (female)	15,250	15,250
Primary departments	20,000	20,000
Colored schools	7,000	7,000
Evening schools (male)	5,335	5,335
Evening schools (female)	5,335	5,335
Normal College	200	200
Model Primary School	200	200
Saturday Normal School	200	200
Colored Normal School	200	200
Corporate schools	8,250	8,250
Total	101,960	101,960

It is unnecessary to state that the care of so many lives as above-mentioned should not be entrusted to incompetent officials, but, unfortunately, such is the case. The Superintendent of Buildings of the Department of Public Instruction is a gentleman who has been connected with the schools for many years, and although he knows all about the buildings he does not worry himself much about the boilers, as that is "out of his line." It is very well to state that the engineer of the department knows all about heating and ventilating because he was "five year on twelve injin, sometimes when it was a workin' a fire, and we had to send her up to two hundred pounds, and it was just as nice the day he left as the day he went on," and there was soot pine all around it and sheet iron on the outside on it." Several of the janitors who run the schools have qualified before the police authorities, but safe to say that, notwithstanding all these drawbacks, there is really no more danger in any of the schools than in every possible adjunct in respect to making the building fireproof, was strictly cared for. In these 104 schools, there are 84 boilers, to furnaces, for hot air heating, and over one thousand stoves, and while the police authorities have carefully inspected each boiler and have fixed the safety valves so that there cannot possibly be over 10 pounds of steam on any of them, although they are subjected to a pressure of 110 pounds, it is wrong that the are of all the heating and ventilating arrangements should be under the control of one man, whose scientific record is very closely circumscribed, and who can be found often at the City Hall than at the school houses throughout the city.

It would be wrong to create any alarm now in relation to the schools, as it is just twenty-one years since any very serious casualty happened in any of them. The casualty referred was the result of an alarm of fire. Some scores of lives were lost, but the lesson then taught, although very bitter, has not been neglected, and it is now one of the regular exercises in the schools for the principals to disperse the pupils in short order, drilling the teachers and pupils in case of fire, so that, should occasion require it, the schools could be emptied in a very few minutes. There are no "fire escapes" in the schools, but there are fireproof stairways in almost all of the buildings, built of blue stone and enclosed by solid brick partitions. From the reports given below, as well as from what has been said above, it will be seen that the schoolhouses in this city may be regarded as so many "tinder boxes" should a fire occur; but it is also very evident that the school authorities are doing what seems to them proper to ensure the safety of the lives committed daily to their care, although the choice of their "engineers" might reasonably be questioned.

THE FIRST WARD.
has but three schoolhouses—one in Stone street, one in Greenwich street, near Rector, and one in Cedar street, near Greenwich. With the exception of the last mentioned buildings are very old as schoolhouses, and, although the precautions in case of fire are pretty good, it is said to say that should a fire occur during school hours there would be a holocaust beyond a doubt. All the buildings are old and heated by wood stoves, except the school in Greenwich street, which is heated by steam.

The grammar school in Greenwich street is by no means fortunate in its surroundings. It has tenement houses at both sides, with an alley way running into the side, which would only serve as a trap in case a fire should occur; but, as under a recent order, the children are being drilled daily how they should go out in case of sudden alarm and there are now four stairways and good methods of escape, it is safe to presume that no immediate necessity will arise for the purpose of testing them.

The school in Stone street is an old "tinder box." It has been in use some fifteen or twenty years; it is surrounded by warehouses of all kinds, and would prove to be a death trap should ever a fire occur or a panic of any kind be started.

IN THE SECOND WARD.
there is but one schoolhouse, and that a primary school. It is heated by a steam boiler on one side and an oil stove on the other; it is heated by steam, and is watched over by the father-in-law of the brother-in-law of Mr. Sheriff Brennan. It is an old building, with narrow, winding stairways, and, should a fire occur, it would be a physical impossibility for the children ever to get out without great loss of life. In the Third ward there are no schools, and, of course, no danger.

IN THE FOURTH WARD.
there are three schoolhouses—one grammar school and two primary schools. The former, in Vandewater street, is built surrounded, and, being heated by steam, might possibly be the scene of a great deal of trouble, if not positive loss of life, should a conflagration ever occur. The two primary schools in the ward being heated by wood stoves are comparatively safe, as the teachers and janitors are all so much interested that they must watch the stoves and thus tend to the safety of attendants.

IN THE FIFTH WARD.
there are but two schools—one grammar, in North Moore, and one primary in Vestry street. Neither is particularly safe, but although the surroundings are old and inflammable there is really but little, if any, cause for alarm. Both buildings are heated by steam, and, while carefully guarded, may yet be considered as traps of the worst kind.

IN THE SIXTH WARD.
there are two primary and two grammar schools, all of which are heated by stoves. The surroundings of each schoolhouse are so bad that it is almost unnecessary to specify them. Tenement houses, shops and factories of all kinds are crowded close against the schoolhouses, so that, notwithstanding the fact that the brother of Sheriff Brennan is Commissioner of the Department of Public Instruction, and that the schools and teachers in the district should any alarm be given during school hours the slaughter would be fearful indeed.

IN THE SEVENTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 12, at 321 Madison street, is perhaps an unsafe schoolhouse as there is in New York. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE EIGHTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 13, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE NINTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 14, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE TENTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 15, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE ELEVENTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 16, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE TWELFTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 17, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE THIRTEENTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 18, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FOURTEENTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 19, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FIFTEENTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 20, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE SIXTEENTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 21, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE SEVENTEENTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 22, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE EIGHTEENTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 23, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE NINETEENTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 24, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE TWENTIETH WARD.
Grammar School No. 25, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE TWENTY-FIRST WARD.
Grammar School No. 26, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE TWENTY-SECOND WARD.
Grammar School No. 27, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE TWENTY-THIRD WARD.
Grammar School No. 28, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE TWENTY-FOURTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 29, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE TWENTY-FIFTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 30, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE TWENTY-SIXTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 31, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE TWENTY-SEVENTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 32, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE TWENTY-EIGHTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 33, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE TWENTY-NINTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 34, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE THIRTIETH WARD.
Grammar School No. 35, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE THIRTY-FIRST WARD.
Grammar School No. 36, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE THIRTY-SECOND WARD.
Grammar School No. 37, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE THIRTY-THIRD WARD.
Grammar School No. 38, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE THIRTY-FOURTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 39, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE THIRTY-FIFTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 40, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE THIRTY-SIXTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 41, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE THIRTY-SEVENTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 42, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE THIRTY-EIGHTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 43, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE THIRTY-NINTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 44, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FORTIETH WARD.
Grammar School No. 45, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FORTY-FIRST WARD.
Grammar School No. 46, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FORTY-SECOND WARD.
Grammar School No. 47, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FORTY-THIRD WARD.
Grammar School No. 48, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FORTY-FOURTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 49, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FORTY-FIFTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 50, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FORTY-SIXTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 51, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FORTY-SEVENTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 52, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FORTY-EIGHTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 53, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FORTY-NINTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 54, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FIFTIETH WARD.
Grammar School No. 55, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FIFTY-FIRST WARD.
Grammar School No. 56, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FIFTY-SECOND WARD.
Grammar School No. 57, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FIFTY-THIRD WARD.
Grammar School No. 58, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FIFTY-FOURTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 59, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FIFTY-FIFTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 60, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FIFTY-SIXTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 61, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FIFTY-SEVENTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 62, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FIFTY-EIGHTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 63, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE FIFTY-NINTH WARD.
Grammar School No. 64, at 100 Cannon street, is a very bad schoolhouse. The stairways are of wood, and are in a bad condition. The school is very old, having been built in 1812, and they are now putting in wooden ceilings and improving its condition; but the best improvement they could make is to tear it down entirely and rebuild the structure. Owing to the strictures made in the *HERALD* some time since on the condition of this school, the board of education made some alterations in it, but it is nothing better than a tinder box.

IN THE SIX